# UCLA Faculty Association

News and opinion from Dan Mitchell since 2009



**Wednesday, January 21, 2026**

## Just the (Corrected) Facts

*As blog readers will know, the campus Academic Senate has been pushing for budget information from Murphy Hall, and recently passed a resolution to that effect. There seems to be a factual dispute between the Senate and the powers-that-be what providing budgetary information actually means. See the letter below:*

January 20, 2026

Julio Frenk

Chancellor, UCLA

Darnell Hunt

Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost (EVCP), UCLA

Re: Corrections of Fact on Your 12/18/2025 Letter on the Legislative Assembly Budget Planning Resolution

Dear Chancellor Frenk and EVCP Hunt,

On behalf of the Legislative Assembly, thank you for your timely response to its Resolution on Financial Transparency and the Restoration of Shared Governance in Budget Planning. To both keep Senate Faculty informed about this important issue that is of major concern to them given the potential impacts of the current campus budget deficit on the academic mission, and in the interest of transparency and “no surprises” that are essential principles for shared governance, we are providing these corrections of fact to your letter. Below we provide screenshots in boxes of sections of your letter followed by corrections of fact.

It is our intention that these corrections of fact will provide a common and shared understanding of the budget consultation process to date. It is our goal that a shared base of facts will foster a more transparent and substantive budget planning process that instills trust and protects the academic mission of our campus.

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- Our Concerns Over Revisions to APMs 15 and 16
- Fight for the Future of Higher Ed Town Hall
- Letter from AAUP to UC Objecting to Trellix
- Judge rules Trump demands of UCLA must be made public

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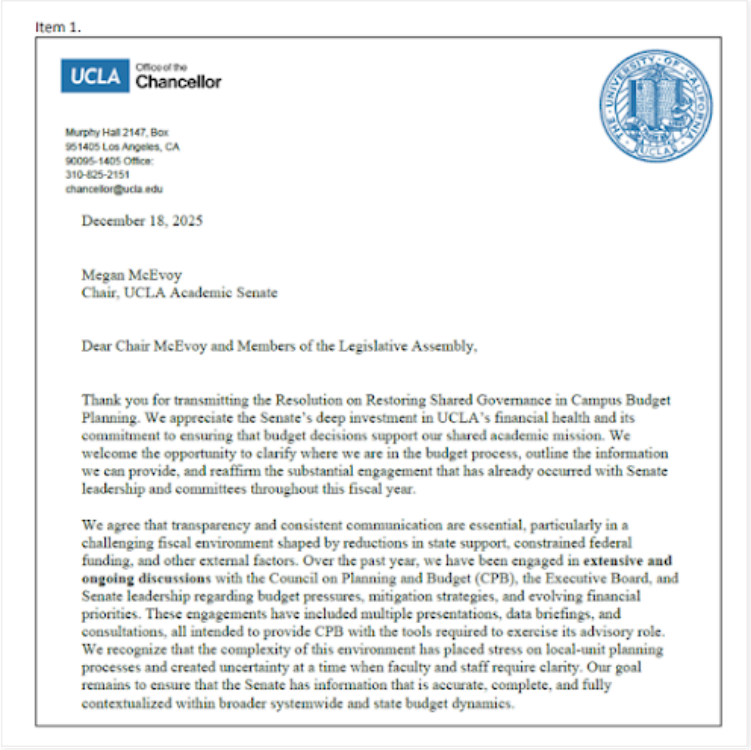
- UC-AFT

**Topics**



Item 1.

UCLA Office of the Chancellor

Murphy Hall 2147, Box 951405 Los Angeles, CA 90095-1405 Office: 310-825-2151 chancellor@ucla.edu

December 18, 2025

Megan McEvoy
Chair, UCLA Academic Senate

Dear Chair McEvoy and Members of the Legislative Assembly,

Thank you for transmitting the Resolution on Restoring Shared Governance in Campus Budget Planning. We appreciate the Senate's deep investment in UCLA's financial health and its commitment to ensuring that budget decisions support our shared academic mission. We welcome the opportunity to clarify where we are in the budget process, outline the information we can provide, and reaffirm the substantial engagement that has already occurred with Senate leadership and committees throughout this fiscal year.

We agree that transparency and consistent communication are essential, particularly in a challenging fiscal environment shaped by reductions in state support, constrained federal funding, and other external factors. Over the past year, we have been engaged in **extensive and ongoing discussions** with the Council on Planning and Budget (CPB), the Executive Board, and Senate leadership regarding budget pressures, mitigation strategies, and evolving financial priorities. These engagements have included multiple presentations, data briefings, and consultations, all intended to provide CPB with the tools required to exercise its advisory role. We recognize that the complexity of this environment has placed stress on local-unit planning processes and created uncertainty at a time when faculty and staff require clarity. Our goal remains to ensure that the Senate has information that is accurate, complete, and fully contextualized within broader systemwide and state budget dynamics.

**Item 1. Corrections of Fact:**

The Council on Planning and Budget (CPB) has received mainly verbal presentations of limited data that have been insufficient for meaningful consultation on the campus budget:

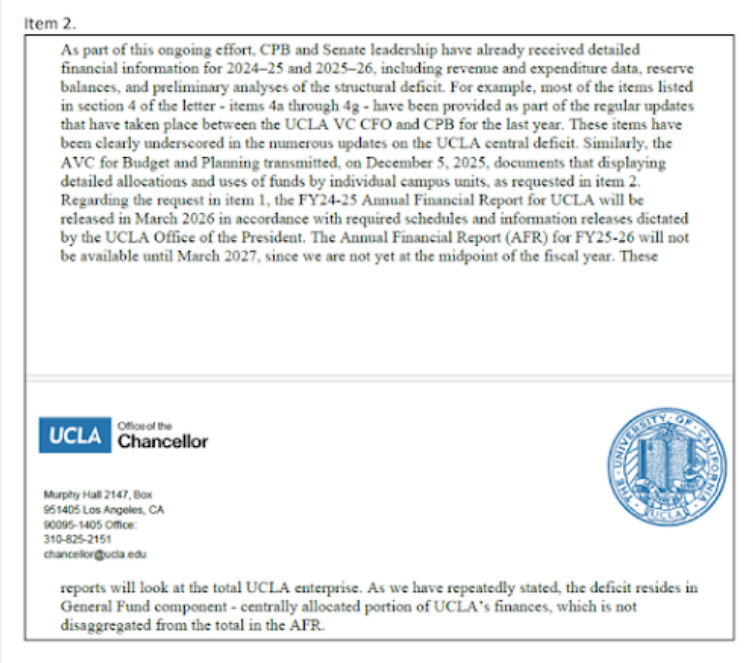
2024-25
Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Agostini did not provide any written materials to CPB for review during AY 2024-25. Instead, he provided 20-35 minutes of verbal updates at the following meetings: October 7, 2024, October 21, 2024, December 2, 2024, February 10, 2025, February 24, 2025, March 10, 2025, and May 5, 2025. CFO Agostini attended CPB meetings, but did not provide information on November 18, 2024, and May 19, 2025. He presented one slide on May 5, 2025, titled: "Chancellor's central resources to reach ending balance deficit of -$650 by FY26 if deficit resolution plan is not enacted."

2025-26
October 13, 2025: CFO Agostini presented three slides at the CPB meeting, which were neither shared in advance nor after the meeting: i) UCLA's Budget Sources for 2023-24, ii) Chancellorial Revenue for FY24, iii) "Constrained ability to rely on future revenue increases to balance the budget." [30 minutes]
October 27, 2025: CFO Agostini presented five slides at the CPB meeting, which were neither shared in advance nor after the meeting: i) 2023-24 Budget sources, ii) Chancellor Commitment Allocations FY21-27, iii) "Limited ability to rely on future revenue increases to balance budget" (with graph showing decline in per-student general fund support), iv) "Chancellor's resources to reach ending balance deficit in FY 2026," v) "FY25 action that closed central Chancellorial deficit." [30 minutes]
November 10, 2025: EVCP Hunt visited the CPB meeting where CFO Agostini provided a verbal update. [40 minutes]
December 1, 2025: CFO Agostini joined the meeting after declining the invitation to attend; he did not provide data or updates, only verbal comments on a proposed consultation timeline developed by CPB and shared with CFO Agostini in October 2025. [30 minutes]
December 5, 2025: Academic Planning and Budget office (APB) provided i) a list of budget conference meetings for FY 2026-27 scheduled for February-March 2026, ii) 42 proposed unit budgets for FY 2025-26 in PowerPoint format, and iii) 39 updated unit budget slides for FY 2025-26 in PowerPoint format.
January 12, 2026: CFO Agostini presented one slide at the CPB meeting, which was neither shared in advance nor after the meeting: Chancellor's resources to reach ending balance deficit in FY 2026 with sources, uses, and 2024-25 actual, 2025-26 forecast, and 2026-27 estimate.

politics (2363) UC (2096) UC Regents (1888) health care (1425) State Budget (1276) governor (1125) UC budget crisis (970) diversity (962) UC-Berkeley (912) pension (662) pensions (593) admissions (543) athletics (539) tuition (533) CSU (411) transportation (395) UC-Davis (377) online education (339) UCOP (312) uc retirement (308) ucrp (301) traffic (300) audio (291) UC enrollment (282) new hotel-conference center (282) UC-San Diego (263) enrollment (259) community colleges (243) LAO (231) UC-Irvine (185) fund raising (168) UC-Santa Barbara (162) UC-San Francisco (160) UC-Santa Cruz (159) controller (149) faculty center (144) UC-Riverside (142) ballot propositions (132) CalPERS (122) UC-Merced (117) faculty pay (109) Master Plan (106) Yudof (90) UCRS retirement (62) parking (61) Faculty Association at UCLA (60) privatization (59) CalSTRS (50) UC Berkeley (35) copyright (35) campus climate survey (28) UCRS (22) Michigan Model (18) UC Merced (17) uc funding (16) Regents (15) State Contribution (14) UCOF (14) faculty recruitment (12) UC pay (7) graduate education (6) UC San Diego (5) UC Irvine (3) UCpolitics (3) teaching evaluation (3) UC Santa Cruz (2)

**Blog Archive**

▼ 2026 (113)
▼ January (113)
Lane Squeeze Coming Next Weekend
Straws in the Wind - Part 239
Watch the Regents Meetings of Jan. 21, 2026
Just the (Corrected) Facts - Part 2
Is small beautiful in the current higher ed climate?
Climate Proposal
Straws in the Wind - Part 238
Inquiring Minds
Straws in the Wind - Part 237
Encampment Case Goes Forward - Decision
Watch the Regents Meetings of January 20, 2026
Straws in the Wind - Part 236 (Compact 2.0)
Former UCLA Law Dean Named Head of Columbia



Item 2.

As part of this ongoing effort, CPB and Senate leadership have already received detailed financial information for 2024–25 and 2025–26, including revenue and expenditure data, reserve balances, and preliminary analyses of the structural deficit. For example, most of the items listed in section 4 of the letter - items 4a through 4g - have been provided as part of the regular updates that have taken place between the UCLA VC CFO and CPB for the last year. These items have been clearly underscored in the numerous updates on the UCLA central deficit. Similarly, the AVC for Budget and Planning transmitted, on December 5, 2025, documents that displaying detailed allocations and uses of funds by individual campus units, as requested in item 2. Regarding the request in item 1, the FY24-25 Annual Financial Report for UCLA will be released in March 2026 in accordance with required schedules and information releases dictated by the UCLA Office of the President. The Annual Financial Report (AFR) for FY25-26 will not be available until March 2027, since we are not yet at the midpoint of the fiscal year. These

UCLA Office of the Chancellor

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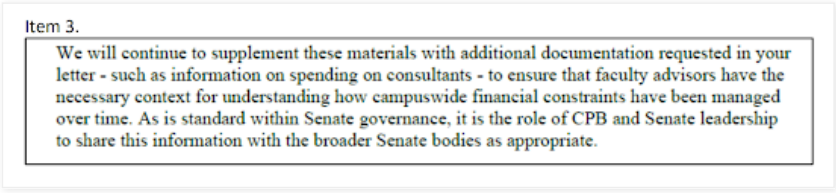
reports will look at the total UCLA enterprise. As we have repeatedly stated, the deficit resides in General Fund component - centrally allocated portion of UCLA's finances, which is not disaggregated from the total in the AFR.

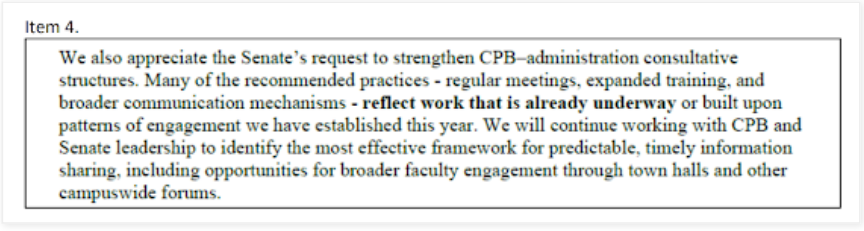
**Item 2. Corrections of Fact:**
Academic Planning and Budget office (APB) provided i) a list of budget conference meetings for FY 2026-27 scheduled for February-March 2026, ii) 42 proposed unit budgets for FY 2025-26 in PowerPoint format and iii) 39 updated unit budget slides for FY 2025-26 in PowerPoint format.



Item 3.

We will continue to supplement these materials with additional documentation requested in your letter - such as information on spending on consultants - to ensure that faculty advisors have the necessary context for understanding how campuswide financial constraints have been managed over time. As is standard within Senate governance, it is the role of CPB and Senate leadership to share this information with the broader Senate bodies as appropriate.

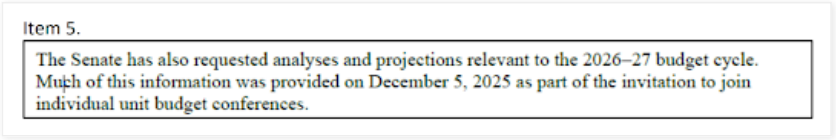
**Item 3. Corrections of Fact:**
CPB and Senate leadership have not received budget documents beyond those described in the previous sections, so nothing has been provided that can be distributed. On multiple occasions Senate leadership has been told that Executive Budget Action Group (EBAG) budget discussions and materials are confidential and could not be shared broadly.



Item 4.

We also appreciate the Senate's request to strengthen CPB–administration consultative structures. Many of the recommended practices - regular meetings, expanded training, and broader communication mechanisms - **reflect work that is already underway** or built upon patterns of engagement we have established this year. We will continue working with CPB and Senate leadership to identify the most effective framework for predictable, timely information sharing, including opportunities for broader faculty engagement through town halls and other campuswide forums.

**Item 4. Corrections of Fact:**
Although CFO Agostini attends the majority of the two-hour CPB meetings for approximately 30 minutes, the time spent has not been productive because CPB does not receive documents for consideration. CFO Agostini has attended 15 of 19 CPB meetings between October 2024 through January 2026.



Item 5.

The Senate has also requested analyses and projections relevant to the 2026–27 budget cycle. Much of this information was provided on December 5, 2025 as part of the invitation to join individual unit budget conferences.

**Item 5. Corrections of Fact:**
The Academic Senate has not received any information (analysis, projections, data, etc.) for the FY 2026-27 budget cycle on December 5, 2025, or any point to date. The only information received was the PowerPoint slides provided by 42 units for FY 2025-26 as explained above.


Bubble Worries
Straws in the Wind - Part 235
ICE Matters
Some day
Straws in the Wind - Part 234
It's hard to keep the lid on - Part 10 (confirmation)
Pension Payments at Risk - Part 2
SAT vs. ACT vs. UC
Straws in the Wind - Part 233
Will Harvard Continue to Lead the Charge? - Part 112
In Dialogue or in Denial - Part 2
I Never Promised You a Rose Bowl? - Part 10 (alter...
Straws in the Wind - Part 232
Wikipedia solicitations
I Never Promised You a Rose Bowl? - Part 9
Straws in the Wind - Part 231
Will Harvard Continue to Lead the Charge - Part 111
Bond May Be Coming
Straws in the Wind - Part 230
It's hard to keep the lid on - Part 9 (and now it'...
Just the (Corrected) Facts
Terminated
Straws in the Wind - Part 229
Wikipedia Scams
Why Folks Are Nervous - Part 3
Straws in the Wind - Part 228 (if you can't lick '...
No Way Out (1950) - Updated Link
TMT?
Straws in the Wind - Part 227
And things roll along without a Master Plan
UC Should Cash the Check Quickly
Straws in the Wind - Part 226
Union Negotiation News
I Never Promised You a Rose Bowl? - Part 8
Straws in the Wind - Part 225
Data Breach at Credit Union
Subway Issues Today
Extra Cash Continues
Straws in the Wind - Part 224
New Bus Lane to UCLA
Pension Payments at Risk
Why folks are nervous - Part 2
Straws in the Wind - Part 223
Will Harvard Continue to Lead the Charge? - Part 110
New Anderson Dean
No Retroactive Pension Payments for Delayed Filings

Again, the intention of this corrections of fact letter is to promote meaningful shared governance and transparent communication because there is significant evidence over 100 years that when Senate faculty provide substantive advice the campus makes better decisions that promote the excellence of research and teaching central to our academic mission. At a critical time in the university's history, leaning into our collective strengths will protect what we most value.

Sincerely,
Megan McEvoy, Chair, UCLA Academic Senate

Cc: Kathy Bawn, Immediate Past Chair, UCLA Academic Senate
Richard Desjardins, CPB Chair, UCLA Academic Senate
April de Stefano, Executive Director, UCLA Academic Senate
Elizabeth Feller, Associate Director, UCLA Academic Senate
Tim Groeling, Vice Chair/Chair Elect, UCLA Academic Senate
Emily Rose, Assistant Provost and Chief of Staff to the EVCP, UCLA
Julie Sina, Chief of Staff to the Chancellor, UCLA

Source: https://dms.senate.ucla.edu/issues/issue/?10449.Resolution.on.Financial.Transparency.and.the.Restoration.of.Shared.Governance.in.Budget.Planning.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 2:40 PM No comments:

Labels: UCLA

## Terminated

GoFundMe.com picture
Johnathan Perkins

From the Bruin: *An official in UCLA's office of equity, diversity and inclusion said UCLA fired him Monday over social media posts in which he expressed satisfaction about the murder of right-wing commentator Charlie Kirk. UCLA put Johnathan Perkins, the EDI office's former director of race and equity, on investigatory leave in September after he posted comments in which he appeared to celebrate Kirk's death on the social media platform Bluesky. Kirk was shot dead Sept. 10 at Utah Valley University on the first stop of his The American Comeback Tour, in which he debated college students across the country...*

*"It is OKAY to be happy when someone who hated you and called for your people's death dies —even if they are murdered," Perkins appeared to say in a social media post...*

*Ralina Joseph, the vice provost of inclusive excellence, appeared to say in a Monday notice of intent to terminate employment sent to Perkins that he engaged in "serious misconduct" and violated several University policies related to workplace violence and ethical standards...*

*Perkins also appeared to wish death on Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas – a member of the court's conservative wing – in a March 2022 tweet, according to ABC News 4. Perkins appeared to refer to Thomas as "Uncle Thomas" in another tweet, which is meant to describe a Black person who is accepting of white supremacy...*

*Perkins created a GoFundMe to support himself amid a loss of income and to cover the costs of the lawsuit, according to the fundraiser website. He added that his termination of employment has forced him to relocate to Philadelphia, where his family lives. "UCLA terminating my employment is upending my entire life – personal and professional," he said. "Without this role, I am being forced to upend my living situation, and of course, search for new employment."*

Full story at https://dailybruin.com/2026/01/13/former-ucla-edi-official-says-he-was-terminated-over-charlie-kirk-posts.

We noted back in 2022 at the time of the Clarence Thomas incident that it isn't necessary - or even advisable - to tweet or otherwise post every thought that pops into one's head:

https://uclafacultyassociation.blogspot.com/2022/03/ucla-saved-by-slap.html.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:30 AM No comments:


Straws in the Wind - Part 222
I Never Promised You a Rose Bowl? - Part 7 (earlie...
The Underside of UCLA Receives National Attention
Straws in the Wind - Part 221
The Visit
Faculty Discipline & Name Disclosures
Straws in the Wind - Part 220
Still More on the Need for a New Master Plan
UC Enrollment
Straws in the Wind - Part 219
The Regents Are Coming: January 20-21, 2026
The No-Hassles-While-I'm-in-Office State Budget Pr...
Fast Movers
Straws in the Wind - Part 218
Dukakis Event This Coming Tuesday
No Cap
People are starting to notice
Today Is Budget Day
Straws in the Wind - Part 217
Yesterday's State of the State: Little Concrete on...
All in 30 Minutes - Part 5
State of the State Due Today - Update
I think I can use "entourage" in a sentence
Straws in the Wind - Part 216
State of the State due today
And yet more on Harvard's data manipulation affair
Straws in the Wind - Part 215
Will Harvard Continue to Lead the Charge? - Part 109
Grade Inflation Is Not the Same as Price Inflation...
UCLA ahead in the Wikipedia editing sweepstakes
Straws in the Wind - Part 214
Dodd
Data Privacy
The coming state budget squeeze
New Research Costs for 2026
Straws in the Wind - Part 213
Computer Ready
Will Harvard Continue to Lead the Charge? - Part 108
I Never Promised You a Rose Bowl? - Part 6
4th Quarter 2025 Wrap-Up on the Governor
Will Harvard Continue to Lead the Charge? - Part 107

► 2025 (1139)
► 2024 (832)

Labels: diversity, UCLA

## Straws in the Wind - Part 229

From the Yale Daily News: *In recent years, Yale admitted two graduate students to its medieval studies program, but this admission cycle, the program will only be allowed to accept only one, according to Director of Graduate Studies Emily Thornbury. The reduction is a part of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences' three-year plan to decrease enrollment, which includes reducing the total students in humanities and social sciences programs by around 13 percent and those in STEM programs by 5 percent, University spokesperson Karen Peart wrote to the News.*

*The cuts come as a part of recent budget tightening as the University anticipates a hike in the tax to its endowment investment income set to begin in July. While three directors of graduate student programs told the News that this reduction did not come as a surprise to them in consideration of the University's financial constraints, they said it could have several negative effects it could have on graduate and undergraduate student experiences...*

Full story at https://yaledailynews.com/blog/2026/01/14/yale-to-admit-fewer-graduate-students-amid-budget-tightening/.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:20 AM No comments:

Labels: politics, Yale

**Tuesday, January 20, 2026**

## Wikipedia Scams

**Scam warning:** there are scammers who target new editors and Articles for Creation participants.

They may pretend to be Wikipedia volunteers or a professional Wikipedia editing or public relations firm, and then ask you to pay them for "premium Wikipedia services" – to create an article for you, accept or publish a draft article, prioritize the review process of a draft article, protect an article from editing or deletion, restore a deleted article, or monitor an article for unfavorable changes. **This is a scam.**

- Help from real Wikipedia volunteers is **always free.**
- Real Wikipedia volunteers will **never** ask you for money or any other compensation.
- **No one** can guarantee that a draft will be accepted or an article will be kept in exchange for payment.

**If someone contacts you with paid offers:**

- **Do not** reply. Stop all contact.
- **Do not** share personal or account information.
- **Do not** click on any links they send.
- **Do not** follow their instructions or send any payment.

**What to do instead:**

- Forward the whole conversation, including email headers, to *paid-en-wp@wikipedia.org*.
- Delete the messages. If you shared any account details, change your password immediately and consider enabling two-factor authentication.

Source and additional information at:


► 2023 (828)
► 2022 (719)
► 2021 (710)
► 2020 (914)
► 2019 (671)
► 2018 (595)
► 2017 (666)
► 2016 (715)
► 2015 (765)
► 2014 (704)
► 2013 (776)
► 2012 (839)
► 2011 (738)
► 2010 (431)
► 2009 (12)

**Contributors**

- California Policy Issues
- Toby Higbie
- UCLA Faculty Association

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Scam_warning.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 8:20 AM No comments:

Labels: email fraud

## Why Folks Are Nervous - Part 3

As blog readers will know, the campus Senate overwhelmingly passed a resolution of concern about the plan to consolidate the various local IT system into one unified system: One IT.

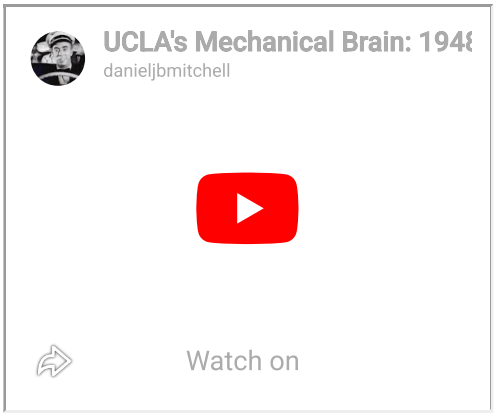
Yours truly suspects that the concern is based on the proposition that there could be screw ups and that things could be worse rather than a love for what they have now. The thing about now, is that it works. The thing about the future is that it might not.

As we have pointed out in past postings, UC has not had a great track record in replacing computer systems with large new ones.

Tucked away in the chancellor's letter of response to the resolution is the statement that "the decision about if we will proceed with One IT has already been made" and that now we are in the implementation phase. So there you are.

===

Maybe we were better off with UCLA's mechanical brain, back in the day:




Or direct to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hIinz4fKGpo.

Just a thought...

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:30 AM No comments:

Labels: UCLA

## Straws in the Wind - Part 228 (if you can't lick 'em, join 'em)

From The Dartmouth: *Last December, the College announced a partnership with Anthropic and Amazon Web Services, making Dartmouth the first Ivy League university to launch artificial intelligence at an institutional scale. The Dec. 3 announcement has drawn criticism from some faculty members, including claimants in a class action lawsuit against Anthropic for allegedly infringing their copyrights and unethically downloading their publications to train its large-language model Claude. More than 130 College of Arts and Sciences faculty members have publications named in the lawsuit, including College President Sian Leah Beilock. On Sep. 5, Anthropic agreed to a settlement of $3,000 per work per author, for a landmark total of $1.5 billion, the largest copyright settlement in U.S. history. The final approval hearing is scheduled for April. The College declined to comment on Beilock's eligibility for the settlement class.*

*Latin American, Latino and Caribbean studies professor Matthew Garcia, a claimant in the suit, said administrators "have not been forthright" about the terms of the new AI partnership with affected faculty members... History professor Bethany Moreton, a claimant in the class action suit, said she thought the College's decision to partner with Anthropic, a company that "ripped off the published scholarly work of [the College's] own faculty," was "ironic."*

*"We are faced with an agreement that has been struck beyond our ability to even know about it, let alone have any impact on it, and we're scrambling to deal with the fallout at the level of classrooms," Moreton said. AI "interrupts the slow, effortful and inefficient process of learning how to think," Moreton added...*

Full story at https://www.thedartmouth.com/article/2026/01/college-announces-ai-partnership-with-anthropic-company-accused-of-plagiarizing-dartmouth-professors-publications.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:20 AM No comments:

Labels: Dartmouth, plagiarism

**Monday, January 19, 2026**

## No Way Out (1950) - Updated Link

We repeat this item from last year around this time because the YouTube link has changed.

*If you're looking for a movie related to Martin Luther King Day, here's one you probably never heard of. "No Way Out" was released in 1950 and is the first film starring Sidney Poitier. He*

*plays a new doctor at a hospital assigned to the emergency room. Two White criminal brothers are brought into the ER after a shootout. One dies and the surviving brother blames the Poitier character, although he had correctly diagnosed that the dead brother was dying from a brain tumor. It's rather amazing that the film was released by a major studio in 1950 when the film could not be played in the Jim Crow south of that era and probably would have been rejected by theater owners in many areas outside the south. You can see the film - free on YouTube - at the link below. (Caution: Racist language)*

*Or direct to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AlpK2tOHLGA.*

Posted by California Policy Issues at 7:33 AM No comments:

Labels: diversity, miscellaneous

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